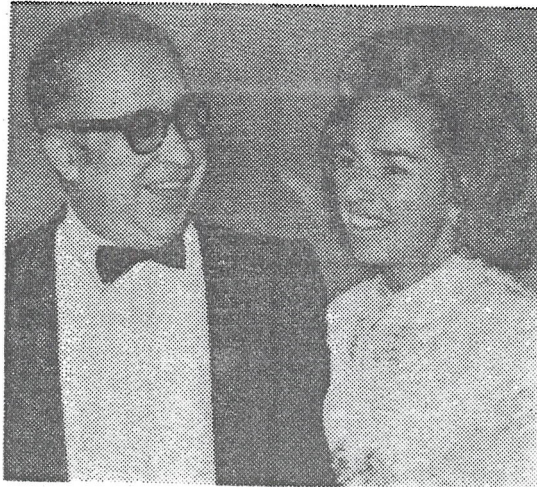


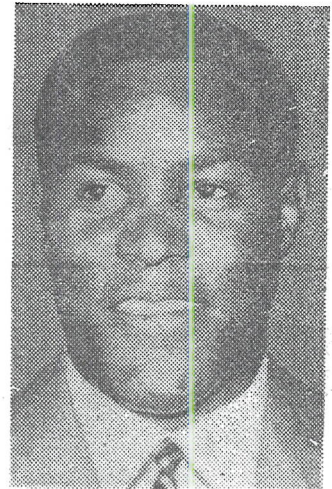
Betty Beale: Washington



Shirley Black



Art Buchwald and Ethel Kennedy



Rafer Johnson

Richardson boomlet

WASHINGTON — This city that looks for a silver lining has already turned its sights toward the newest hope on the political horizon.

A Richardson-for-President boomlet started the day after his resignation and there is no telling where it will end. If there is anything that appeals to the hopes and hearts of people, it is character, principle and high-mindedness. This was the reason for the late Adlai Stevenson's considerable following.

Of the first thousand telegrams that poured in from all over the country to Elliott Richardson in the first three days after he chose to resign rather than break his word half of them indicated support for him for President.

When his wife Anne was asked about this support, she would only say, "We have certainly had a lot of messages to that effect, but I don't think he is giving it any thought. If it turns up in the future then he can face it. I personally want him to have a rest. Things change so rapidly."

Among the other half of the telegrams were such messages as, "Your action restored my faith and that of millions of Americans;" "Your courage and independence are an inspiration. The country sorely needs such examples. May you have the support of the people in the days ahead."

Mrs. Richardson said she was very sad that a lot of good work her husband had done "is down the drain" but "I feel incredibly proud of what he did and how he did it. He did it with great grace — because there was plenty of opportunity to feel bitter and angry and all kinds of things but he rose above that. He managed to keep his irrepressible honesty and also his calm. He

has a compassionate understanding for the other person's problems."

He was so moved by the ovation given him at his Justice Department press conference; "I think he had tears in his eyes," said Anne.

Are they going to sell their McLean, Va., house? "We have already had a letter from a real estate broker but I think we are going to stay here for at least a while. We have two children in school here." She hopes after a vacation in Cape Cod, where they have been hiding out, that he will take the time to put some thoughts on paper about the shape and trends of government based on his 12 years in state and federal government.

Elliott Richardson may lack the ruthlessness to become President but the publishing of thoughts on government has been the start of many presidential campaign.

Few people at the Junior League Christmas Shop recognized the woman slated to become Second Lady and quite possibly First Lady sooner than you think. A quiet person who hasn't enjoyed the best of health and married to a super-busy politician, Betty Ford is not a frequenter of the daily social scene.

Far from trying to attract attention in her new position of prominence, Betty Ford was so embarrassed by the presence of the Secret Service command truck that instantly swooped down on their quiet Alexandria, Va., neighborhood and parked on the all-residential street, that she moved her car out of the garage so the S.S. truck could be hidden inside.



RESIGNATION of Elliott Richardson, center, stirred up a presidential boomlet. Here he's with his wife and Sen. Dewey Bartlett (R-Okla.).

The wife of the Vice Presidential nominee says over 80 FBI agents are going through her husband's background with a fine tooth comb but she isn't worried. "There's absolutely nothing wrong with Jerry's health," said Betty, smiling at the thought of her robustly healthy husband. Among the facts the agents are covering is every doctor Jerry Ford has seen in the past 20 years. She laughed when her husband said he supposed he would have to list the doctor who did nothing more than put a pad around a heel blister he got when skiing at their place in Vail, Colo.

In the meantime, the White House has been a veritable tomb socially. It's almost unheard of for First Ladies who are used to receiving from one to three groups a day and shaking hands with hundreds every week to have only one reception scheduled. But such was the case this past week and the week to come, as of this writing.

Mrs. Nixon received art museum people Friday afternoon and this Thursday she will attend a Nevada State Society dinner, which was accepted before the nation's reaction to the resignations of Attorney General Richardson and his deputy, Bill Ruckelshaus. Since then, the Nixons have had little taste, apparently, for mingling.

There are no evening functions scheduled. The one state visit, that of the President of Romania, was postponed from Nov. 26 to the first part of December. There is so little activity in the Executive Mansion, the sound of horns by passing motorists responding to "Honk Your Horn For Impeachment" signs must be reverberating in the quiet, historical rooms.

Robert Abplanap, the close Nixon friend so often mentioned in connection with the latter's San Clemente house, has not seen nor talked to the President since June — according to a friend of Bob's.

An Sans Souci, Washington's IN place to lunch, the Art Buchwalds entertained Ethel Kennedy, Olympic decathlon winner Rafer Johnson and his wife, Pierre Salinger who was off to Paris, playwright Peter Stone and the George Stevens, Jr.s. At another table Shirley Temple Black was telling about her daughter Susan, 25, who is writing a novel based on the energy crisis. She has finished 14 chapters and is nearing the end, said her proud mother. Incidentally, three years ago Shirley visited President Sadat in Cairo and told him there should be a peacekeeping United Nations force, not including the super powers, stationed in the Middle East, and Sadat agreed. NOW, they get around to it.